0325.00524
CD01153

CLAIMS

1.   A method for delineating a frame comprising the steps of:

(A)   receiving said frame comprising (i) a length value incorporating a payload error detection length, (ii) a length error detection value, (iii) a payload data, and (iv) a payload error detection value having said payload error detection length, wherein said payload error detection value and said payload data occupy separate fields of said frame;

(B)   performing an error detection on said length value based upon said length error detection value; and

(C)   retrieving said payload data and said payload error detection value based upon said length value in response to passing said error detection on said length value.

2.   The method according to claim 1, wherein step (A) comprises the sub-steps of:

buffering a plurality of received bytes;

calculating an error detection value from a first predetermined group of said received bytes;

24

comparing said error detection value with a value defined by a second predetermined group of said received bytes; and

marking a start of said frame in response to said error detection value matching said value.

3. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of buffering at least one subsequent byte of said received bytes in response to said error detection value being different than said value.

4. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of reading said length value from said first predetermined group.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of separating said payload data and said payload error detection value.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of jumping a number of bytes equal to said length value from a start of said payload data to reach a next frame.

25

7.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

determining a second length value based upon (i) a payload length of said payload data and (ii) a second payload error detection length of a second payload error detection value;

calculating a second length error detection value for said second length value; and

inserting (i) said second length value, (ii) said second length error detection value, (iii) said payload data, and (iv) said second payload error detection value into a second frame, wherein said payload data and said second payload error detection value occupy separate fields of said second frame.

8.   The method according to claim 1, wherein said steps (A) through (C) are stored in a storage medium as a computer program that is readable and executable by a computer to delineate said frame.

9. A method for creating a frame comprising the steps of:

(A) determining a length value based upon (i) a payload length of a payload data and (ii) a payload error detection length of a payload error detection value;

(B) calculating a length error detection value for said length value; and

(C) inserting (i) said length value, (ii) said length error detection value, (iii) said payload data and (iv) said payload error detection value into said frame, wherein said payload data and said payload error detection value occupy separate fields of said frame.

10. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of calculating said payload error detection value.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of buffering said payload data.

12. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of assembling said frame as (i) a length field, (ii) a

length error detection field, (iii) a packet field, and (iv) a

packet error detection field.

13. A method according to claim 9, wherein said steps

(A) through (D) are stored in a storage medium as a computer

program that is readable and executable by a computer to create

said frame.

14. An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a frame comprising (i) a length value

incorporating a payload error detection length, (ii) a length error

detection value, (iii) a payload data, and (iv) a payload error

detection value having said payload error detection length, wherein

said payload error detection value and said payload data occupy

separate fields of said frame;

means for performing an error detection on said length

value based upon said length error detection value; and

means for retrieving said payload data and said payload

error detection value based upon said length value in response to

passing said error detection on said length value.

15. An apparatus comprising:

means for determining a length value based upon (i) a payload length of a payload data and (ii) a payload error detection length of a payload error detection value;

means for calculating a length error detection value for said length value; and

means for inserting (i) said length value, (ii) said length error detection value, (iii) said payload data and (iv) said payload error detection value into said frame, wherein said payload data and said payload error detection value occupy separate fields of said frame.